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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/615,960  | 07/08/2003  | Glenn P. Schiffmann  | 29666               | 1244             |
| 23482   | 7590        | 01/09/2006           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| WILHELM LAW SERVICE, S.C.<br>100 W LAWRENCE ST<br>THIRD FLOOR<br>APPLETON, WI 54911 |             |                      | CANFIELD, ROBERT    |                  |
|   |             | ART UNIT             | PAPER NUMBER        |                  |
|   |             | 3635                 |                     |                  |

DATE MAILED: 01/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/615,960             | SCHIFFMANN ET AL.   |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | Robert J. Canfield     | 3635                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 August 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-40,42-61 and 64-71 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 4,6,7,11,14-39 and 68-71 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3,5,8-10,12,13,40,42-46,49-51,53,55-57,59 and 65-67 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 1,4-6,8-11,14,15,17, 21, 47, 48, 52, 54, 58, 61 and 64, is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/10/05 has been entered. Claims 1-40, 42-59, 61 and 64-71 are pending. Claims 41, 60, 62 and 63 have been canceled.
2. Claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 14, 15, 17 and 21 are objected to because of the following informalities: in each of claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 14 and 15 "such third surface" lacks antecedent basis. In each of the claims 17 and 21 the language "to such third" is unclear. Further note that there is no antecedent basis for a third surface. Appropriate correction is required.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
4. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 12, 13, 40, 42-46, 49-51, 53, 55-57, 59, and 65-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,203,130 to Freelove.

Sheet 2 of the drawings shows an assembly meeting the limitations of these claims. Outer sections 80 transverse to central section 61. Either legs 53 or 54

can meet the door leg section depending upon which side one wishes to consider the outer side. Outer leg sections are connected by curved nose transitions at approximately S and 71, which are spaced from inner corners at approximately 20 and 21. Elements 84 form and under-curl overlying an outer surface of trim at approximately 36. Elements 66 and 67 form first and second displaced leg members. When considering element 51 alone the apparatus covers less than the entire width of the inner surface. The device can be removed when desired as discussed at the bottom of page 8. The spaced apart curvature at approximately 37 inherently forms a shock absorber which would transfer forces away from the underlying corners to the same extend as that of the instant invention.

5. Applicant's arguments filed 08/10/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's argument that a shock absorber which transfers forces away from the outer corners is not taught or suggested is not found persuasive.

The spaced apart curvature at approximately 37 inherently forms a shock absorber which would transfer forces away from the underlying corners to the same extend as that of the instant invention.

6. Claims 4, 6, 7, 11, 14-39 and 68-71 are allowed.

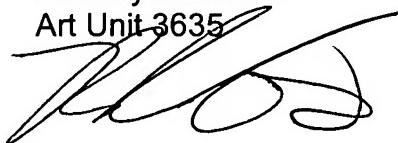
7. Claims 47, 48, 52, 54, 58, 61 and 64 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert J. Canfield whose telephone number is 571-272-6840. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on 571-272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Robert J Canfield  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3635



01/04/06